

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

and of John R. Rice

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20.

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

VOLUME V, No. 21

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Office: 207 So. Beckley St., Phone 6-6888

Subscription Price Raised to \$1.00 A Year January 1st

CHRISTMAS SUBSCRIPTIONS MAY BE HAD AT OLD PRICE, 50c A YEAR, 3 YEARS FOR \$1.00. SEND LIST AT ONCE.

January 1, 1939, the subscription price to *The Sword of the Lord* must be raised. The present subscription price does not even pay the printing and postage. The best I could, I have made up the deficit ever since *The Sword of the Lord* began to carry out to thousands its message of salvation and Bible teaching, and edification and comfort. But now, there are heavy printing bills to pay, the editor has given all he had to give. Heavy losses in the burning of our church building, the Fundamentalist Baptist Tabernacle in Dallas, must be replaced, and there will be a great drain in the future as we rebuild. Thus it becomes imperative that we raise the subscription price to approximately cover the cost of printing and postage, etc. After January 1st, the price will be \$1.00 a year, instead of 50c a year.

A comparison with other sound Christian papers shows that those weekly papers which are well known and well established must have a higher price than 50c a year to maintain themselves. Again and again people have scoffed at the idea of printing the paper for only 50c a year. I do not regret the thousands of dollars I have put into the work and I only wish I could continue to do so. However, God's way is best and now He wants every reader to get a blessing by paying for the printing and postage of his own paper. If the paper isn't worth two cents a copy, it is not worth reading. We feel sure that readers will want to pay for the paper which comes to them each week.

As in the past, the editor will receive not a penny's profit or salary from *The Sword of the Lord*. All the money for subscriptions will go, of course, for printing the paper and mailing it. The editor lives by the free will offerings of God's people and gladly gives his time and energy to getting out the gospel through *The Sword of the Lord*, just as he does through tracts, over the radio, and in every other way possible.

Christmas Subscriptions at 50c A Year!

However, we are giving fair warning so that all who wish to renew their own subscriptions or

subscribe for others may do so at the old rate of 50c a year or three years for \$1.00. It is the Christmas season. Thousands of you long to do something for loved ones to express your appreciation and to make them happy. You want, I am sure, to have a Christian Christmas. You want your gifts to be a real blessing. May I suggest that you send *The Sword of the Lord* as a Christmas present to loved ones, relatives and friends. Make out your list today, inclose 50c a year for each subscription. It will be our joy to have this part in making your Christmas a success. For a few dollars you can send *The Sword of the Lord* to all your relatives and close friends for a year. The Christmas season will thus be prolonged for fifty-two weeks, and who knows how many will be saved and how many others will be blessed through your thoughtfulness! For Christmas you may send *The Sword of the Lord* three years for \$1.00 or you may send it six months for 25c if you wish to do so. Do not delay! Get your names to us as soon as possible so they may receive the Christmas issue of *The Sword of the Lord* or one before that time. Remember that if you will renew your own subscription by January 1st, you may have it at the old rate of 50c a year or three years for \$1.00. If you wait until January 2nd, you will have to pay \$1.00 a year or \$2.00 for three years. We want to play fair with our friends and give each one a chance to renew at the old rate. Besides, we need the money to pay back printing bills. And your loved ones and friends and unsaved neighbors need *The Sword of the Lord* coming to their home for the next year. Send them this paper which has been so greatly blessed of God and has led to so many souls being saved. We promise to prayerfully and with much study and hard work fill *The Sword of the Lord* with the best preaching and Bible teaching and devotional matter and reports of great revivals for the next year.

Send your subscriptions to:

The Sword of the Lord
207 S. Beckley Street
Dallas, Texas.

\$5000 Goal for Building Fund By January 1st

Tonight (Wednesday) in a meeting of church men for counsel and prayer we earnestly sought the will of God about plans for building a new church on the site where fire destroyed the big brick tabernacle November 22nd. It seemed the consensus of opinion that we should build a nicer building than before. With careful planning it seems that a big auditorium seating 1,500, with Sunday School accommodations for 1,200 or more, can be built upon the big lot (100 by 175 feet). We feel God wants us to take courage and expect great things. After prayer and counsel we felt led to pray that God would help us to raise \$5,000 in cash by January 1st. We know that would be beyond anything we have in

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

Prayer Time

The while she darns her children's socks
She prays for little stumbling feet.
Each folded pair within its box
Fits faith's bright sandals, sure and fleet.

While washing out, with mother pains,
Small dusty suits and socks and slips,
She prays that God may cleanse the stains
From little hearts and hands and mits.

And when she breaks the fragrant bread
Or pours each portion in its cup,
For grace to keep their spirits fed,
Her mother-heart is lifted up!

Oh, busy ones, whose souls grow faint,
Whose tasks seem longer than the day,
It doesn't take a cloistered saint
To find a little time to pray!

(Author unknown. This poem was copied, beautifully lettered by hand and sent to Mrs. Rice by a friend. How mothers need to pray! Mother, pray through about your burdens.)

Jewish Persecution, The Antichrist, Christ's Return

BY JOHN R. RICE

(Continued From Last Issue)

Jews and the Coming Antichrist

Once Satan tried to enlist Christ to rule the whole earth in Satan's name and power but Christ refused. Ever since Satan has corrupted governments, enslaved the minds and hearts of men seeking yet to build a world government under the authority of one man. Always his power has been limited by the foretold plan of God. Rome fell as was prophesied in the Bible, dividing into ten kingdoms. Napoleon, Kaiser Wilhelm, and Joseph Stalin all aspired to world-wide rule but failed. Yet Satan is preparing the way for his great "Man of Sin" and just as soon as the saints of God and the Holy Spirit who dwells in their bodies are taken away at the rapture, caught out to meet Christ in the air, then the Man of Sin will be revealed (II Thess. 2: 7-9).

Democracies are breaking down. A few years ago we would have thought a world dictatorship was an impossibility, but totalitarian states, that is, governments by dictatorship controlling every detail of the lives of the people, have risen in Italy, Russia, Germany, Japan and Turkey, and the idea threatens the whole world! It does

not primarily matter whether the rule is by Communists or Fascists, both forms of government requiring a dictatorship, an atheistic, godless, selfish dictatorship. And these play into the hands of Satan. One such man will rise, the Scripture says, to rule the whole world. Already the world is being prepared.

We cannot here take space to call attention to and explain the many, many Scriptures about such a ruler. Briefly we mention a few Scriptures. He is clearly pictured in Daniel 9:27. A prince is to arise from the people that destroyed Jerusalem in A. D. 70, that is, from Rome. In Daniel 7:8 this ruler is pictured by a little horn coming up in the midst of ten other horns on a beast. In the inspired explanation (Dan. 7:16-27), we are told that the beast pictures the fourth great world empire, Rome. The ten horns picture the ten nations or kingdoms which followed this empire. The little horn then is a dictator or ruler who will arise among the nations that once formed the Roman Empire. This dictator is a Roman, will seize other nations and finally restore the Roman Empire to world-wide power, will speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws; and they shall be given into his hand, until a time and times and the dividing of time," that is, for three and one-half years (Dan. 7:25). This world dictator, after ruling his three and one-half times or years, will be overthrown "And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him" (Dan. 7:27).

In Revelation, chapter thirteen, the picture is taken up again. This man appears as the head of the Roman Empire during the great tribulation period after Christ has caught away His saints to meet Him in the air. But others will

have been converted and against these converts and against the Jews, the Man of Sin will spend his mighty wrath and power.

But we are interested here primarily in the relation of this wicked ruler, the Antichrist, and the Jews, particularly his persecution of Jews.

First, the Man of Sin will appear to be a friend of the Jews. With the Jews that are in Palestine, "he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week" (Dan. 9:27), that is, Jews in Palestine will be allowed to build their temple again and restore their ancient sacrifices and offerings and priesthood. This may be the first way that the Man of Sin will reveal himself. After the Holy Spirit who up to now is restraining, takes away the saints of God, then an Italian dictator will have a mandate over Palestine and will make a treaty with the Jews for seven years, a "week" in the terms of Daniel's seventy weeks. Sixty-nine such weeks of Jewish history has already taken place, beginning on the return from Babylon and ending after the death of Christ (Dan. 9:24-26). Only one such week of seven years or seven years of Jewish national history in their own land, with their own priesthood and sacrifices, remains before the kingdom of Christ on earth.

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LETTERS FROM FRIENDS

COMFORT, ASSURANCES OF PRAYER AND LOVE AND GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS AND CHURCHES

We have just barely begun to feel the real weight of the financial burden that came upon us with the burning of the Fundamentalist Baptist Tabernacle November 22nd. The loss will involve so much work, so much prayer, and the raising of so much money, that we sometimes tremble as we look far ahead. But, thank God, we do not need to look far ahead. The Scripture says, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" (Matt. 6:34). God will give sufficient grace day by day. Once D. L. Moody was asked if he had grace to die like a Christian ought. Moody replied, "No, I don't have dying grace and I don't need dying grace. What I need right now is grace to speak for God these three days here in Milwaukee!"

When dying time came, Moody had dying grace. I know that God's promise, "As thy days, so shall thy strength be" (Deut. 33:25), will be true. I am going to try to follow the command of Jesus, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself" (Matt. 6:34). God will wonderfully guide us and bless us. I have seen so many of God's blessings that I expect more of them. After David described the blessedness he had in following the Lord he said, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life" (Psalm 23:6). So we of the Fundamentalist Baptist Church in Dallas look toward the future happily,

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Get Jews To Read Article on Jewish Persecution

Jews throughout the world are greatly stirred and troubled. Their hearts are tenderer than ever before toward the gospel. Will you show Jewish friends the article on *The Persecution of the Jews and Bible Prophecies* in the last issues of *The Sword of the Lord*? It is a subject of entrancing interest. Preachers should read it. Make friends with Jews near you and give them an opportunity to read this message. Pray that it will be used of God to turn many of our Jewish friends to their Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday Services In Dallas

The services of Fundamentalist Baptist Church will be held at Sunset and Tyler Streets in Dallas. Sunday School at 9:30. Pastor John R. Rice preaches at 10:50 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.

Sunday morning the pastor will preach on "How To Make Sure of Victory." Sunday night the sermon to the unsaved will be "The Blood of Jesus Christ." Please bring unsaved friends. God gave a glorious service last Sunday night with several adults coming forward, several for church membership.

Jewish Persecution, the Antichrist --

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

But in the midst of this week when three and one-half years have gone by with peace (as far as the Jews are concerned), the Antichrist will suddenly come to Jerusalem. He will enter into the temple there and commit the "abomination of desolation" (Dan. 9:27). This abomination of desolation will begin the great tribulation time, the greatest time of trouble the world ever saw (Matt. 24:15, 21). He will enter into the temple as God, showing himself that he is God, and demanding to be worshipped as God (II Thess. 2:3, 4). In fact, he will start out to kill all the Jews who will not receive him as their God and Messiah. Jesus warns such Jews to flee at once to the mountains, and pray that their flight shall not be in winter when they would suffer more from exposure, nor on the sabbath day when Orthodox Jews would flee only a short way (Matt. 24:15-22). That will be a time of trouble for all the world, a time of bloodshed, oppression and war, but most of all, it will be "the time of Jacob's trouble." Jews will suffer most of all. None can buy nor sell except they have the mark of the beast, and Jews will rebel with the same fanatical zeal with which they rebelled against Rome in A. D. 70 when Titus finally took the city and 1,100,000 Jews were slain. In fact, if God did not raise up friends to the Jews and provide hiding places for them, not a Jew would be left alive on the earth during the reign of this terrible and wicked Antichrist! Then Jewish persecution and that latent hatred for Israel which is ingrained in Gentile human nature, will flame into its hottest fire.

Jerusalem is even now becoming again a Jewish city, though Arabs bitterly hate Jews and try so hard to prevent it. When the Man of Sin makes a treaty with the Jewish remnant in Jerusalem, the city will be strengthened as a whole for Jews. But during their rebellion when Jews will refuse to worship the Antichrist or serve him, he will finally decide to sack and utterly destroy the city, calling the armies of the world to the battle. Most of that thrilling story must be omitted here but you can read much of it in Zechariah, chapter fourteen, and in Revelation, chapters nine, sixteen, and nineteen. There will be an army of two hundred million horsemen (Rev. 9:16), men possessed of devils. Spirits of devils working miracles will "go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty" (Rev. 16:14). God will have an angel to dry up the River Euphrates so that the kings of the East, with their armies, may be there for the mighty destruction (Rev. 16:12).

Zechariah 14:1 and 2 tell us of that great day as follows:

"1. Behold the day of the Lord cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.

"2. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city."

Suddenly, in the midst of the sack of Jerusalem, the Lord Jesus Himself shall return from Heaven with all His saints who will have been raised or changed and raptured. And Christ Himself will

fight the battle for the Jews.

Now we read next verses 3 and 4 of Zechariah 14:

"3. Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

"4. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east; and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south."

This battle is also described in Revelation 19:11-21.

"11. And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

"12. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew but he himself.

"13. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and his name is called The Word of God.

"14. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

"15. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

"16. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KINGS OF KINGS AND LORDS OF LORDS.

"17. And I saw an angel standing in the sun: and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God.

"18. That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

"19. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

"20. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

"21. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, of which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh."

Thus the mighty Man of Sin will be cast alive into Hell and the birds of the air will eat the flesh of his armies and Jews will be saved from their enemies.

Jews as a nation will never have any prosperity until Christ, their Messiah, returns to reign! He will deliver them from their enemies and restore Israel to favor as His chosen nation. Jews will be regathered to their own land, will be wonderfully converted and Christ will reign over them gloriously in Jerusalem!

V. The Second Coming of Christ To End Jewish Persecution Forever

How we ought to long for our Saviour to come! Every one of us were taught to pray, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10). This prayer does not ask for the rapture of the saints when Christ will call us out into the air to meet Him and take us away on our honeymoon in Heaven to eat the marriage supper, to stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to meet our loved ones and stay for a time in the Father's house of many mansions. No, this prayer

asks rather the return of Christ to the earth to reign, when He will bring us back with Him, accompanied by all His holy angels. Then He will set up His kingdom on the earth and reign gloriously at Jerusalem. For this blessed kingdom, when the will of God will be done on earth like it is in Heaven, we are taught to pray.

Of all the blessings of that coming, one of the greatest is what Christ will do for the Jews.

To New Testament Christians has been revealed the mystery of the church, the bride of Christ. We look, of course, for the midnight coming of Christ as a Bridegroom, to take away His bride. To Christians in this church age Christ is to come "as the bright and morning star" (Rev. 22:16). We naturally think more of the heavenly mansions than of having authority over five cities or ten cities on the earth or of reigning with Christ. But we must remember that to the Jew the outlook is different. Throughout the Old Testament the emphasis is not on the rapture of the saints but on the return of Christ a little later to reign on the earth. To the Jew, Christ is not so much "the bright and morning star." He is rather, "The Sun of righteousness" who shall rise "with healing in his wings" (Mal. 4:2) for Israel. Christians look for midnight and the coming of the Bridegroom, but Jews as a race and nation look beyond the midnight to the sunrise when their Messiah will return to reign. Christians may long for Christ as Saviour and Husband but Jews look for Christ as Deliverer and King.

Consider some of the things that Christ will do for the Jews at His second coming.

First, He will destroy the Antichrist and all the human governments that persecute the Jews. In the terrible battle of Armageddon, all the armies of Gentile world powers will be destroyed and the Antichrist and his false prophet will be sent alive to Hell as described in Revelation 19:11-21.

Second, Christ will gather the civilian population before Him and will eliminate the enemies of the Jews. Read carefully Matthew 25:31-46. All of the civilian population who are left alive after the soldiers are destroyed in the battle of Armageddon will be gathered before Christ and will be divided as a shepherd divides sheep from the goats. The "sheep" represent Gentile Christians who will have befriended the Jews during the great tribulation time. In that time when the Man of Sin will start out to kill every Jew and destroy every Christian those who are truly for Christ will side in with the Jews while the persecution rages at its hottest. Those who are against the Jews will also be against Christ and these are the "goats" who will be cast out into everlasting destruction. When Jesus says, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40). He will refer to the Jews, His blood "brethren" so dear to His heart. The enemies of the Jews will be destroyed and the friends of the Jews (and therefore believers and friends of Christ), will be taken into the kingdom of Christ.

Third, the Jews themselves will be regathered from all the world to Palestine. Back in Deuteronomy, chapter twenty-eight, the curse on the Jews was foretold with their dispersion to every nation under Heaven and their persecution. But Deuteronomy 30:1-6 tells how Jews will be regathered to Palestine.

"And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath driven thee.

"2. And shalt return unto the Lord thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul;

"3. That then the Lord thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath scattered thee.

"4. If any of thine be driven out unto the utmost parts of

heaven, from thence will the Lord thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee;

"5. And the Lord thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers.

"6. And the Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live" (Deut. 30:1-6).

In that passage note several important points. This regathering of Israel will be when "the Lord thy God . . . will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath scattered thee." It will be at the return of Christ. Note also that it will include every Jew in every part of the world. That Scripture cannot refer simply to the Zionist movement but a supernatural and complete regathering of every living Jew. Note also that they will be brought to the land of Palestine, "the land which thy fathers possessed." Last and best of all, note in verse 6 that God will circumcise the hearts of the Jews and they will be converted at this regathering.

We cannot here record the many, many wonderful promises that God has made Israel about this regathering. We suggest that you read Second Samuel 7:10; Isaiah 14:1-3; Jeremiah 23:3-8; Ezekiel 20:33-44; Ezekiel 34:11-21; Ezekiel 36:16-38, and Ezekiel 37:1-28. The joy of Israel as they return to Zion is beautifully expressed in the wonderful 35th chapter of Isaiah where we see the redeemed of the Lord on the highway to Jerusalem and learn that all sorrow and sighing shall flee away!

What a revival there will be when Jews see their Messiah! When He comes and smites their enemies and delivers the city Jerusalem as foretold in Zechariah the 14th chapter, then Jews will see Him and know Him and their hungry hearts will receive Him. Then Zechariah 13:1 will be true, that

"In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness."

When Jesus was crucified and the spear was thrust in His side, John 19:37 reminds us, "And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced." The reference is to Zechariah 12:10 where God says,

"And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications; and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him."

Compare that Scripture with Zechariah 13:6:

"And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends."

Can you imagine the interest of the Jewish multitude when in gratitude they turn to see their long awaited Messiah and find Him with wounds in His hands? Can you imagine the grief of heart that will seize them when they see His wounded feet and the scar in His side? Suddenly the mourning and repentance will seize an entire nation and they will mourn, every man and every family apart, grieving over and repenting of the long continued sin against their Christ, their Messiah, their King. Then the blindness that is happened in part to Israel (Rom. 11:25) will be taken away. Then truly "all Israel shall be saved," that is, every Jew who is left alive will turn to Christ, as an old song says, "A nation in a day." Then the mighty promise of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit as given in Joel 2:28 and 29 will be fulfilled. If you read that second chapter of Joel you will see a clear reference to the armies of the Man of Sin, to the battle of Armageddon, to the repentance of the Jews, the deliverance by the Saviour. And the wonderful chapter ends with that promise so often quoted by Gentiles, that "whosoever shall call on the name of the

Lord shall be delivered." That is true for Gentiles but it was originally written for Jews and particularly about the entire nation who will be saved at the second coming of Christ.

"And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered; for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call" (Joel 2:32).

I wish that I could have seen the mighty revival when Israel sang the song of Moses and women sang and clapped their cymbals led by Miriam, on the eastward side of the Red Sea when Pharaoh's army had been drowned. What a revival!

I have wished I could hear the praises when the host of Israel, led by Joshua, crossed the flooded Jordan and entered Canaan and when at the blowing of ram's horns and the shouting of people the wells of Jericho fell down!

I have wished that I could have been present when Elijah called the people back to God on Mount Carmel and the fire of the Lord fell and the people as one man fell on their faces and cried, "The Lord He is God, the Lord He is God!" That, too, was a revival when thousands and thousands of hearts turned to God.

Or if I could have stood on the banks of the Jordan River and have seen that bearded John in raiment of camel's hair, preach to the multitude of all Jerusalem and Judaea, and have seen their repentance as they were baptized in Jordan, confessing their sins and looking for the promised Messiah, how my soul would have been thrilled!

Or if at Pentecost when 3,000 were saved in a day and the mighty Spirit of God left signs like tongues of fire upon the people and devout men out of every nation heard the gospel in their own language, how my soul would exult at the memory!

The revivals under Whitfield and Finney and Moody and Sunday and Torrey — God in Heaven, how we need their kind again! Nothing ever happened in the hearts of the people on this earth as important as a Holy Ghost revival.

But all the revivals this world ever saw will pale into the shadows when the Holy Spirit of God is poured out on Israel and this abused and hated and persecuted and blinded people — so long the Christ-rejectors, the Christ-haters, and so long suffering in their blindness — when these all turn to Christ and love Him and receive Him. Then sons and daughters shall prophesy and young men shall see visions and old men shall dream dreams! Then this world will have a real Pentecost of which that in Acts the 2nd chapter was only a faint type and picture!

No, God has not cast away His people which He foreknew! The gifts and callings of God are without repentance. Israel is a holy

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\$5,000 Goal For B. F. By January 1

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

sight. Church members and friends are asked to earnestly pray.

It is planned to prayerfully offer every member of the church an opportunity to contribute to a special building fund campaign by January 1st. It is also planned to enlist every member of the church and Sunday School in regular tithing, not waiting for collections but each one bringing his tithes and offerings on the first day of the week, the amount depending upon the way God has prospered him. One general fund or budget is to include our general expenses such as office expenses, supplies, janitor, utility bills, advertising, a foreign missionary and an assistant pastor besides building fund. The church adopted the suggested budget unanimously and with great enthusiasm. The budget does not include salary for the pastor. The pastor will continue to be supported on the free will offering basis as heretofore.

We trust every member of the church and Sunday School will be ready next Sunday to enter into a tithing covenant with God for the rest of this month and for all of 1939.

THE SWORD OF THE LORD and of John R. Rice

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JOHN R. RICE, EDITOR, Pastor of Fundamental Baptist Church

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Jewish Persecution, the Antichrist —

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

nation. God is still their God. They will still possess their land Canaan. Christ is the Seed of David, will yet sit on the throne of David at Jerusalem. Even yet the law must go forth from Jerusalem and the Word of God from Mount Zion as foretold in Micah, chapter 4. Blessed is every one who accepts Christ as Saviour and Lord and so will come to see that happy day!

VI. Jewish Persecution, the Sign of Christ's Soon Coming

The end of Jewish persecution will not come until the glorious appearing of Christ when He returns in person with all the raptured saints and angels. Before that time the Christian dead will be raised and saints will be changed in a moment and caught up to meet Christ in the air for our heavenly honeymoon. Christians look toward that first event, the rapture, while Jewish hope for relief and regathering and conversion and national prosperity in the land of Canaan unto their King, must await the later event, the visible, physical, literal, earthly reign of Christ.

However, the persecution of the Jews is a very definite sign of Christ's soon coming for His saints. Jesus plainly commanded every Christian to watch for His coming. In Matthew 25:13 He said:

"Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh."

Also in Matthew 24:42 Jesus said:

"Watch therefore; for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

Again in Mark 13:33 we read: *"Take ye heed, watch and pray; for ye know not when the time is."*

The attitude of expectancy toward our Lord's return is the only proper attitude. We are warned that He may come at any moment. Many signs are mentioned in the Bible by which we may know that the coming of Christ draws near. Wars and rumors of wars and earthquakes in divers places (Matt. 24:6, 7; Mark 13:7, 8), distress of nations and men's hearts failing them for fear, the sea and waves roaring, signs in the sun, moon and stars (Luke 21:25, 26), the rise of false prophets and false religions (Matt. 24:5; I Tim. 4:1; II Tim. 4:3) — all these are gradually increasing signs which bring exhilarating pressure to prove that Jesus must come soon.

Coming events cast their shadows before them. The colossal set-up of the kingdom of the Antichrist is to take place after the rapture of the saints. After the Holy Spirit is taken away in the saints, then the Man of Sin is to be revealed. But the events of his reign are so stupendous that some preparation is necessary for them. For instance, the Roman Empire must be restored for his brief but terrible reign of three and one-half years (or forty-two months or 1,260 days). Already we see the nucleus of the old Roman Empire reforming in Italy under Mussolini. Again, the world must be ready for a drastic dictatorship under the hands of one man and much of the world has been accustomed to democracy, or at the worst, to a very limited monarchy. But now on ev-

ery hand dictators are arising, people are becoming accustomed to totalitarian states, as in Russia, Germany and Italy. Great emergencies are rising, unemployment, war and want, emergencies that demand a strong hand to control them. The world is getting ready for one great dictator. These things that must occur after the rapture are casting their shadows before and so are signs of the soon coming of the Saviour.

Thus it is with the persecution of the Jews. Some Jews must be in Palestine as a nucleus with whom the Man of Sin will make his treaty for seven years. There must be enough Jews in Palestine to build a temple and begin again their Old Testament priesthood and sacrifices before the Man of Sin could commit the abomination of desolation by appearing in the temple, claiming to be God and demanding worship and before he could begin his war of extermination against rebellious Jews.

Persecution and anti-Semitic feeling is driving Jews back to Palestine as fast as they can get in. This indicates that the time is at hand. If the Saviour should call us who are saved out to meet Him today, we can see how right away an Italian dictator could have a mandate over Palestine and make a treaty with the Jews as is foretold in Daniel 9:27.

But the persecution of the Jews during the great tribulation by the Man of Sin, when he will seek to kill every living Jew and literally to exterminate the race — such hate must have deeper roots than a passing fancy. There would need to be built up in the minds of many people a hatred of Jews. Satan is now working at this task and we may be sure that the orgies of persecution in Germany, the growing restrictions and mistreatment of Jews in Italy, Rumania, Japan, and the gradual increase of Jewish hate even in America and among Christians, is but the working of Satan's plan to build a race-wide and heart-deep hatred against the Jews so that the Man of Sin can enlist the world in his bloody attempt to wipe out all Jews. Jewish persecution now is but the rumble of the storm that is approaching. It is but the murmuring that will burst into a hellish roar under the terrible Man of Sin! To me, the most convincing sign I have ever seen, indicating that Jesus must come soon, is the widespread and wicked persecution of the Jews.

No man can tell the day nor the hour when the Saviour comes, but the Saviour said:

"28. Now learn a parable of the fig tree; when her branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is near;

"29. So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors."

"30. Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done."

"31. Heaven and earth shall pass away; but my words shall not pass away."

"32. But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not even the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father."

"33. Take ye heed, watch and pray; for ye know not

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Letters From Friends

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

not caring to know all that is ahead, but happily trusting that the Lord Jesus will be with us all the way, that He will give wisdom, will give strength, will provide the means. We are His, the work is His, the gospel is His. Whatever He wants us to do, He will give us grace to do. If Jesus should come just now, we would not need a church building. If we give of our best for the Lord, and then Jesus should come when the building was completed, we would not need the money put into the building, and we would already have treasure in Heaven for all our sacrifice. We are to gain, then, by doing our best whether Jesus comes right away or whether He tarries for a bit.

This much we confidently believe; God loves us. Nothing can befall us that He does not permit and that for His own purpose. There are no accidents with God.

There is always comfort in sorrow, there is light in the darkness, there is a song in the night. Jesus said, "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." We are having wonderfully sweet comfort in the response of friends and loved ones all over the country who write or come by or 'phone.

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Typical of the spirit of the letters is that from Calvin White, seven years old, at Hulbert, Oklahoma. The letter was written by his mother at his request. He says,

"I am a little boy seven years old. But I have already given my life to the Lord. We take your paper and I heard my mother read of your great loss. I asked her if I could help you a little and she readily gave her consent. This is my own money. I had a pig and sold it so I am sending what I can."

And then he said in a postscript:

"Yes, when I grow up I am going to be a preacher, too."

Another little boy, here in Dallas, had his mother send word that he would save from his lunch money to make an offering to help build the church back again.

A country preacher from Sliedell, Texas, wrote a most comforting letter. He inclosed an offering of \$1.00, urged me to look to the Lord for strength and then said,

"Inclosed you will find a little gift. It is not much but it is from those who love you."

when the time is" (Mark 13: 28-33).

Surely the coming of Christ is near, even at the very door! Let all those who are ready for Christ's coming rejoice and take heart. Soon we will be taken out of this wicked world to meet Jesus in the air. Soon sickness and disappointment and disease and sin and death will be in the past and everlasting life with glorified, resurrection bodies in the image of Christ will be a blessed reality. Soon surely we will see Him whom our souls love. At any moment now the blackness of this world's affairs may reach the midnight hour. At any moment now we may hear the exultant cry, "Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him" (Matt. 25:6). Let us keep our lamps trimmed and shining. If Christ tarries, let us win joy and when He comes, let us be ready to go joyfully! The persecution of the Jews is a sad affair but to a Christian it may mean joy in it promises that the end is not away. Let no one set date, let every true Christian give!

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

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Jewish Persecution, the Antichrist —

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

the sin of Jewish persecution, but let us rejoice that the coming of our Saviour is nigh. Let us pray for the peace of Jerusalem and have the blessing of God promised for that prayer (Psa. 122:6). Yes, let us pray not only "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20), but let us pray the daily prayer our Saviour taught us, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10). That prayer means an end to Jewish persecution and all sin. But while we are praying for the Jews and sorrowing over the sin of those who hate these "brethren" of the Lord Jesus who are so beloved for the fathers' sakes (Rom. 11:27), let us be looking for the coming of Christ to catch away His saints. Truly Jewish persecution is but another sign that it must be soon.

VII. The Only Way For Jews to Have Peace

I think we have shown the sad fact that as a nation Jews will never be restored to favor and have national prosperity "until the times of the Gentiles" be fulfilled" (Luke 21:24; Rom. 11:25). God promised Daniel that after seventy

weeks of years there would be an end of sin and reconciliation for iniquity and the anointing of the most Holy, that is, the Jewish King on David's throne (Dan. 9:24). Sixty-nine of those seventy weeks of Jewish national history have past, ending just after the crucifixion of Christ. One week of seven years remains but God has now called "time out" until Jews are back in their land, until the Antichrist gives them again a national entity by signing a covenant or treaty permitting them to have the temple, the priesthood and Old Testament sacrifices and worship. Thus after the rapture of the saints the Man of Sin will be revealed (II Thess. 2:7-9), and that seven years must run their awful course, three and one-half years while he attains world power and then three and one-half years of the great tribulation while he tries to kill every Jew and persecutes the saints of God. Then, thank God, the entire race of Jews will be delivered by the glorious return of their Christ, their Messiah, the King of the Jews, our own Lord Jesus Christ and Saviour. And until that time there can be no permanent peace and prosperity for the whole Jewish race in this world! Jews ought to look forward to it with unceasing longing. As the persecution grows heavier, they will. Surely it will turn the hearts of the Jews to seek God and to hope for the coming of their King.

But individual Jews, thank God, can have sweet peace now. The Jewish race is now in an agony that cries out in the morning, "Would God it were even!" and in the evening cries out, "Would God it were morning!" with "trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind," with even the life hanging in doubt, just as foretold in Deuteronomy 28:65-67. But any individual Jew if he will but pull the veil from off his eyes and seek the Saviour may find his Messiah, Jesus Christ, fulfilling every promise of Jewish Old Testament

Scriptures, born of a Jewish virgin, foretold by Jewish prophets, dying for Jews as well as Gentiles, and anointed to be King of the Jews! Jews that seek peace of heart today may find it in Christ. By faith in His atoning blood which was pictured in every Old Testament sacrifice, Jews may have salvation and everlasting life, may have forgiveness for every sin, peace for every trouble, wisdom for every problem, a refuge in every storm! Oh, my Jewish friends, dearly beloved of God, your Jewish Messiah holds out pleading hands for you! One day the whole nation, those left alive, will see Him and love Him when they see the wounds in His hands and feet and side. Why not look to Christ today and have peace? True Judaism all points to Jesus Christ. True Christianity is simply the full fruition of Judaism. You do not forsake the Old Testament when your trust Christ as your Saviour but you obey it. You do not turn your back upon Abraham and Isaac and Jacob when you open your heart to Jesus Christ for Jesus Himself said, "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day; and he saw it, and was glad" (John 8:56), and again He said about Moses, "for he wrote of me" (John 5:46). Well did Simon Peter, the Jewish apostle say,

To him give all the prophets (of the Old Testament) witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins" Acts 10:43).

Dear Jews, in your Scripture, Micah 5:2 foretold the birth of Christ at Bethlehem, Isaiah 9:6 foretold His birth of a virgin; Psalm the 22nd chapter plainly pictures His crucifixion, and Isaiah the 53rd chapter in glowing words tells how He atones for our sins, how "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all," and how "he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." By receiving Christ Jesus as Saviour and Lord this Son of Abraham, this Son of David, this King of the Jews will become your own Deliverer and Redeemer, your own Pass-over Lamb.

This is the only way for anybody, Jew or Gentile, to escape the troubles that are coming on this world. The horizon of the future is black with clouds and God's wrath broods heavy over a wicked, godless world! Perhaps you who read this will die in your sins if you do not accept this invitation which God sends today. Certain it is that no one can ever see God in peace without personally loving and trusting Jesus Christ. Not human goodness, nor morality, not church membership, not saying prayers, not faithful attendance at worship can attain peace of heart, peace with God and eternal salvation to the soul. The blood of Jesus Christ, shed for sinners, Jews and Gentiles, alike, is God's only remedy for sin.

Let me warn every reader now by the awful wrath of God not to trifle with this matter. It was rejection of Christ that brought the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple. After the Jews cried out, "Let him be crucified," and said, "His blood be on us, and on our children" (Matt. 27:23,25) then came the dispersion of the Jews to every nation in the world, Jerusalem was trodden down of the Gentiles and the day of vengeance began! (Luke 21:20-24). The curse of God is on those who reject Christ. It is just the same whether they be Jews or Gentiles. One is not a Christian because he is a Gentile; rather, most Gentiles do not love nor trust the Lord Jesus Christ. And one is not really a Jew, the Scripture says, which is one outwardly (Rom. 2:28): They are true Jews who follow in the steps of Abraham, who "believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness" (Gen. 15:6; Rom. 4:3). Every Jew who does not trust Jesus Christ must die in his sins, unconverted, unforgiven, unpardoned, unsaved just exactly like every Gentile who dies without Christ. Jesus Christ is God's only Saviour for mankind. Will you trust Him today and so enter into sweet peace and salvation?

Those who trust Christ will be taken away when Jesus comes for

His own and will not be left here to go into the great tribulation. Jews who wish to escape that terrible ordeal, "the time of Jacob's trouble" (Jer. 30:7), must turn to Christ and be taken away when He calls out His own to meet Him in the air.

And to Gentile Christians let me add this word of warning and exhortation. I beg you, love the Jews. Every prophet of the Old Testament was a Jew. God gave the law, the Psalms, the prophecies to the Jewish nation. Concerning the flesh Christ came as a Jew. All the apostles were Jews and the New Testament, like the Old, was written by Jews. We Gentile Christians are simply wild olive branches grafted into the Jewish tame olive tree.

I beg you, never join in any persecution of the Jews. Jews are no more guilty of the death of Christ than Gentiles. Herod, Pontius Pilate and the high priests entered into the same plan and my sins and yours nailed Christ to the cross as truly as the sin of any Jew. Jesus said concerning Mount Zion at Jerusalem and in some sense concerning Jews, "For thus saith the Lord of hosts . . . he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye" (Zech. 2:8). He will bring judgment on the nations that oppress Israel. Them that bless Israel God will bless and them that curse Israel, God will curse. Remember the solemn injunction, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee" (Psa. 122:6).

Then the Saviour returns in power and glory He will separate the Gentiles who are left alive after the battle of Armageddon into two divisions like sheep and goats. The "goats" will be those who will have hated the Jews, will have sided with the Antichrist and so will be marked down as the enemies of our Lord. Jesus will say to them, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40). And the saved will have this distinguishing mark that they will love the Jews, the "brethren" of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Satan inspires hatred of the Jews because he hates Christ and hates the promises God has made to Israel. Every Postmillennialist or Amillennialist or modernist who does not believe the promises God made to Israel about their land Palestine, their throne at Jerusalem, the reign of Christ on David's throne and the regathering and conversion of Israel, does not know it but he is but carrying out Satan's plan who would thwart, if he could, the reign of Christ on earth. Iron-jawed Mussolini and that insane egotist, Hitler, do not know it but their Jewish hate is but an expression of the will of Satan who strikes at Jesus Christ, the Jew of all Jews. Beware, Christian, lest the subtle influence of the Evil One lead you, too, to hate Jesus.

A few weeks ago I had the joy of leading a Jewish business man to Christ in St. Paul, Minnesota. When little by little God had helped me to answer all his objections and he trembled on the verge of accepting Christ, the one prejudice I yet had to break down and the one question I had to answer was, "Why do Christians hate the Jews?" Why did Christian boys throw rocks at me when I was a little boy and when I had done them no harm? Why do so-called Christians today yet discriminate against Jews and despise them? God is dealing with Jews and turning their hearts to seek Him. Let us make sure that we do not add to the veil of blindness over the eyes of the Jews by our unchristian conduct and attitude. Rather, let us take the gospel to Jews all about us. They are hungry-hearted, they are beloved of God. God has not cast them away!

May God speed the day when Jew and Gentile may be one in Christ; when scoffers and lovers of wickedness are destroyed and when all those who seek God shall find Him in Jesus Christ, God's own, the Saviour of Jew and Gentile alike, when they trust Him through the merits of His shed blood.

Get this message to Jewish friends. Many of them will read it gladly. Let any Jewish reader feel free to call on the writer for help. I will gladly help him find his own Messiah, from the Jewish Scriptures.

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